REMARKS

Applicant submits this paper in response to the Office Action mailed on September 6, 2005.

In said Office Action, Claims 71-85 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 67-81 of U.S. Patent No. 6,477,200. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith to overcome this rejection.

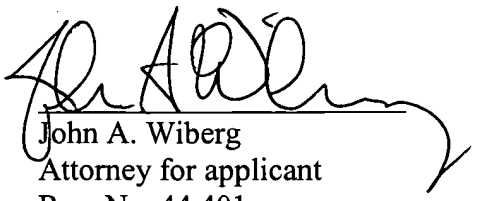
Claims 71-85 were also objected to because, in claim 71, "the elements in the claim are not interconnected." Applicant respectfully submits that a claim does not necessarily fail to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, where the various elements are not directly functionally related and/or do not directly intercooperate. See *Ex Parte Huber*, 148 USPQ 447, 448-49 (Bd. Pat. App. 1965); *Ex Parte Nolden*, 149 USPQ 378, 380 (Bd. Pat. App. 1965) ("[I]t is not essential to a patentable combination that there be interdependency between the elements of the claimed device.") Applicant submits that, in this case, claim 71 particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 71-85 be withdrawn.

Allowance of claims 71-85 is respectfully requested.

Please charge $130 (to cover the Terminal Disclaimer Fee) and any other required fees not paid herewith or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

Dated: December 6, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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